

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BETTY CRAWFORD

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Betty Crawford, a resident of Marks, MS, who has used her talent as a folk artist to teach and inspire many audiences. From summer art camps to craft workshops, children and adults alike have had countless opportunities to learn from her original style of art. Using textiles, paint, recycled and repurposed materials, she crafts one-of-a-kind treasures to preserve history and to document southern culture.

Betty serves as a historian for the original Mule Train Journey of 1968, a part of the Poor People's Campaign. She has preserved the history of this event in the form of commemorative art pieces, which have been displayed at museums, schools, churches, community centers and at the Union Theology Seminary in New York.

Betty Crawford, who was too young to participate in the first noble effort, has kept the legacy alive through her artistry and community service. Her depiction of the Mule Train has been nationally recognized as the only original commemoration of that event. Among other awards, she has received the 2002 Outstanding Achievement Award and the 2003 Humanized Education Award both from the Mississippi Association of Education. In 2004 and 2005 she was nominated for the National Education Association Award. In 2005 she was awarded the Tougaloo College Leadership Institute—Strategic Initiative Plan Award; Fannie Lou Hamer Award for Outstanding Community Service and and Peer Award for Excellence—Jackson, MS.

Mrs. Crawford is presently working diligently with local governments, schools and community groups. She supports human rights projects including the Southern Rural Black Women Initiative in Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia; Kensington Welfare Union Rights in Philadelphia, PA; Scholars Poverty Initiative at the Union Theology Seminary in New York, NY and other organizations that strive to empower people and rectify injustices. Mrs. Crawford's ultimate vision is to see a Southern Cultural Museum in Marks, MS, to house her Mule Train Quilt as well as other artists' work that would bring people from all around the world to experience a part of the Delta's Southern Heritage.

HONORING DR. REV. EDDIE WALLS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Rev. Eddie Walls,

Jr., a native of Claiborne County. Dr. Rev. Eddie Walls was born March 24, 1928, to the late Eddie and Carrie Walls. His early education includes the Romola School, Old St. Mark School and the Claiborne County Training School. He furthered his education at Alcorn College located in Lorman, Mississippi. On August 15, 1944, he joined Greater St. Mark M B Church.

On September 26, 1956 he was united in holy matrimony to the late Lessie Paris. To this union three (3) children were born: Linda, Eddie III, and Janice. He has five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Dr. Rev. Eddie Walls, Jr., serves as the Minister to two congregations. He was elected October 1976 at New Come & See M B Church, having now served 34 years; and the Jerusalem M B Church having served 25 years. As a citizen, he still finds the time to be involved in community activities. He was past president of the NAACP, where he led the charge during the Port Gibson Boycott for 12 years. The U.S. Supreme court rendered a decision in favor of the citizens of Port Gibson. He was also part of a group that filed a suit to stop At-Large elections in Port Gibson which was won by the citizens of Port Gibson. He was past president of the PTSA for nine years. He is currently serving on the City of Port Gibson's Board of Aldermen with a 22 year history.

He was given an Honorary Doctorate in September 2010 by the Claiborne County Baptist Association.

During his many years of dedicated service to this community, Dr. Rev. Eddie Walls, Jr., has proven himself to be a God-sent man.

HONORING PRESIDENT RONALD
WILSON REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the legacy of President Ronald Reagan—a remarkable statesman and leader—whose 100th birthday would have been last Sunday. Recently, I visited the Reagan Library in his home state of California, and I was reminded of his steadfast leadership and significant achievements on behalf of our Nation.

President Reagan was an icon of conservative principles. He brought about sound policies of individual freedom and fiscal responsibility which showed democracy and capitalism at its best. He was a man whose belief in free enterprise changed the course of difficult economic times towards growth and prosperity.

His influence was felt not only by those at home, but also abroad, as he exemplified leadership with unwavering determination during the Cold War. His mission to achieve "peace through strength" changed the course

of history as our Nation ultimately prevailed against the forces of communism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in taking this time to reflect on the great accomplishments of our 40th President and to join me in honoring him as one of the most influential men of our time.

HONORING ELDRIDGE "BUTCH"
WALKER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rolling Fork Mississippi, native, Eldridge (Butch) Walker. Eldridge Walker was educated in the public schools of Sharkey County, Mississippi. He studied at Worshem College School of Mortuary Science.

Early in his career, Eldridge exhibited the traits of a true leader and activist. He became an active participant in the fight for others and remained focused on improving the quality of life for all Sharkey County, Mississippi, residents, particularly the disenfranchised, poor and vulnerable.

Butch was the first black president of the Sharkey County Board of Supervisors. As supervisor he was responsible for bringing the first Win Job Center to Rolling Fork, MS. Butch served as mayor of Rolling Fork from 2003 to 2007. While serving in the capacity of Mayor, Butch founded the Mayor's Youth Council in 2006 and hosted the Annual Christmas Dinner for Senior Citizens and after his term was over he continues this tradition with his own funds and community contributions. Eldridge owns and operates the Mitchell L. Walker Funeral Home in Rolling Fork. He is dedicated to helping families at such a delicate time in life.

He is a member of 100 Black Men of the Mississippi Delta, a deacon and lifelong member of Mt. Lula Missionary Baptist Church and president of the Sharkey-Issaquena Mass Choir for 14 years. He is also team lead for Sharkey/Issaquena Place Matters, a program that brings awareness to communities about health issues such as hypertension, diabetes and obesity. Eldridge is married to Anne Marie Bailey. Together, the couple have six children, Nickolaus, Kimberly, Ashley, Wendi, Robert and Kiara and three grandchildren Dyamone, Elaysia and Jace.

NATIONAL TELEVORK WEEK

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2011

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of National Telework Week.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Beginning on Monday, February 14, thousands of Americans will perform at least one full day of work from their homes or alternate work spaces rather than their traditional offices. It is estimated that about one-third of carbon emissions in the United States are transportation-related, yet the U.S. embraces workforce management practices that encourage long commutes and excessive travel. This pragmatic, commonsense workforce management strategy will provide meaningful relief to workers in the national capital region and across the country.

Late last year, Congress made the United States Government a leader in the movement toward flexible workplaces—significantly expanding telework opportunities for most Federal workers. On December 9, President Obama signed into law the Sarbanes-Wolf-Connolly Telework Enhancement Act of 2010. The product of over three years of bipartisan, bicameral cooperation, the new law requires all Federal agencies to establish a uniform telework policy, ensuring that most employees who wish to telework are able to do so. The Telework Enhancement Act requires Federal agencies to develop training programs for teleworkers and managers, to include telework in continuity of operations plans, and to designate a Telework Managing Officer to lead the telework program at each agency.

This new law will not only increase efficiency in the Federal Government, it will strengthen our national security. By including telework in continuity of operations plans, we can ensure vital services continue in the event of an emergency. The best evidence of this was last year, when a snowstorm shut down the Government for nearly a week. During that period, Federal employees with the ability to telework were able to continue to operate. According to John Berry, the Director of Office of Personnel Management, the Federal Government saved approximately \$30 million per day that would have been otherwise lost.

Telework provides numerous benefits to strengthen our economy and enhance employee work-life balance. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office features a robust telework program and has seen substantial increases in employee productivity and morale since its inception. By implementing an agency-wide telework program, the Patent and Trademark Office has avoided securing \$11 million in additional office space and has developed a more competitive recruitment process. Telework now enables the agency to draw from a talent pool of qualified candidates living anywhere in the country.

In 2009, then-Governor Tim Kaine instituted Telework Day in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For one day, more than 4,000 pledged to telework. Pledges collectively removed more than 82 tons of pollutants from harming our environment, saved more than \$124,000, and avoided driving 140,000 miles—all in just one day. As of February 11, 2011, more than 34,800 people have already pledged to telework at least one day across the Nation. These pledges will collectively save more than \$2.3 million in commuting costs and remove more than 1,595 tons of pollutants from the environment.

In his State of the Union address, the President challenged us to reinvigorate America's competitiveness. He set the goal of "connecting every part of America to the digital age." Telework allows us to leverage today's

technological advances, developed by America's pioneering companies, to enhance our Nation's efficiency, improve the environment, ensure our safety, and elevate our quality of life. As we struggle through another winter marked by agency closures, unprecedented traffic jams and millions of dollars in lost productivity, National Telework Week should serve as a clarion call to the administration to expeditiously implement the new Telework law and as a demonstration of the incredible benefits of a robust Federal telework policy.

HONORING MRS. ELIZABETH
SHARKEY KEGLAR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a worthy member of our society Mrs. Elizabeth Sharkey Keglär. Her contributions to society are a great distance from Washington, in terms of miles but they are considered milestones back home in Tallahatchie County also known as the "Free State of Tallahatchie". She was married to Morgan Keglär in 1936 in which they had one son, Morgan, Jr., but one was just the start of her love to protect and teach children and allowed her and her husband to open their arms and home to four other boys.

If you become familiar with her life and take into account the era in which she grew up along with where, the Mississippi Delta, then I am confident that you would join me in recognizing her this day. Mrs. Keglär was born November 12, 1914, in Tallahatchie County, Mississippi, to James Sharkey and Roberta Wright Sharkey.

"The soul would not have a rainbow if the eyes didn't have tears." Her beginning was challenging and unsure. On the national scene she was born at the beginning of World War I (1914–November 1918) under the Woodrow Wilson Presidential administration. She lived through the Great Depression (1929–1940s) and a Second World War (1939–1945). She also lived through the Jim Crow laws of the dirty south. She along with other poor minorities and southerners in the south gained a sense of optimism with President Roosevelt's New Deal. On the local scene back home in Tallahatchie County, she was trying to live through two horrifying tragedies. One being the murder of her sister-in law in January 1966, Mrs. Birdia Keglär, longtime voting rights activist from Charleston, Mississippi, because of involvement in the civil rights. The other being the horrific murder of Emmett Till a fifteen-year-old, young black boy who was accused of whistling at a white woman in Money, Mississippi.

However, in the midst of those and countless other events that helped to shape this country and Mrs. Keglär's life, she persevered. The way she dealt with them was through education. Education at that time was viewed as the only means of having a fighting chance of survival. Racism and murder were so rampant in the "Free State of Tallahatchie" that an education was vital. She told her high school principal, Professor Hopkins that she wanted to teach as her means of helping others. Professor Hopkins then took Elizabeth who was in

eleventh grade at the time to the Tallahatchie County Courthouse to take a test to determine which grade levels she would be proficient enough in to teach. It was determined that her grade to teach would be the first grade. Afterwards, Elizabeth received her high school diploma in 1937. Teaching was a revered profession during that time because school houses for black, "Negroes" were done anywhere possible and often during certain times of the year (i.e., churches, outdoors, back rooms, after harvesting, etc.). In addition, she had to teach children of all ages in the same class. Mrs. Keglär taught at Mt. Levy Church School, which was a twelve mile walk from her home. She later transferred to Blue Cane Community School where she served as teacher and then principal. Her longest commute in the name of education was fifteen miles a day for eighteen years to and from Adams Quarter in the Town of Charleston. In 1960, Elizabeth graduated from Alcorn State University with her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education.

Elizabeth said her drive in life which has helped mold her young and now ninety-seven years old is, "to live right and reach for the stars" and that is how she has contributed to minorities, her people, and children throughout her home county of Tallahatchie. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Elizabeth Keglär and her commitment and contribution to this country.

A TRIBUTE TO NEW REVELATION
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize New Revelation Missionary Baptist Church of Pasadena, California, upon its fiftieth anniversary.

New Revelation Missionary Baptist Church was established in Pasadena in 1961 by Minister Ike Morris. In 1963, the church purchased a building on Orange Grove Boulevard—a three-bedroom house—which served as the new place of worship. In 1967, with the resignation of Pastor Morris, William Turner, Jr. a minister who served faithfully under the tenure of Pastor Morris, was called to become the new Undershepherd and Pastor of the church.

Under the leadership of Pastor Turner, and with the vision and support of the congregation, a vision to "serve the whole person" was set forth. To that end, a massive ten-year building project was undertaken to create a Sanctuary, child development center, full-court gymnasium, and tutorial program. In 1967, the church purchased and renovated a twelve-room apartment house. In 1968, the church completed the plans for the project, a building permit was granted in 1969 and the church began building. Church members and friends among the community donated their labor and financial assistance, and the Sanctuary was completed in August of 1970. Soon thereafter, with the assistance of Mr. Raymond Jones, the church was able to secure a loan liquidating some of the building expenses. In 1973, with the help of Mr. Vaughn Hardy and Mr. Nick Nickolson, the church received a loan from Prudential Insurance Company for the